

IN THE CLAIMS

Please add new claims 3-7 as follows:

1. (Original) A computerized method for managing router metadata, the method comprising:
 - creating a metadata file, said metadata file defining objects in a router;
 - reading the metadata file;
 - converting the metadata file into an object model having at least one object; and
 - loading the objects onto the router.
2. (Original) The computerized method of claim 1, wherein loading the objects onto the router loads the objects into an SNMP (Simple Network Management Protocol) MIB (Management Information Base).
3. (New) The computerized method of claim 1, wherein the metadata file comprises an ASCII formatted file.
4. (New) The computerized method of claim 1, wherein converting the metadata file includes creating a hash table of attributes names and attribute values from the metadata file.
5. (New) The computerized method of claim 1, wherein converting the metadata file comprises converting a required subset of the metadata into an object model.
6. (New) The computerized method of claim 1, further comprising:
 - comparing by the router the objects of the object model to a runtime object model;
 - and
 - updating the runtime object model with differences identified by the comparison.

7. (New) The computerized method of claim 1, further comprising:
 - reading a runtime object model from the router;
 - comparing the runtime object model to metadata in the metadata file; and
 - updating the metadata file with differences identified by the comparison.